



# RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS . SENATE . GOV / REFORM

## **Virginia: The Cost of Inaction**

### **Virginia Families Suffer**

#### **Virginia insurance premiums skyrocket**

- ✓ In 1997, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$5,300.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$11,497.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$24,938, a 117 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 38.2 percent of projected Virginia median family income.

#### **More uninsured Virginians**

- ✓ Every day, 330 Virginians lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 6,761,000 Virginians under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 31.4 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 1,070,636 Virginians under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 15.8 percent of the under 65 population.

#### **Virginians pay higher premiums due to the uninsured**

- ✓ Virginia families pay a “hidden tax” of \$1,000 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

#### **Fewer choices due to consolidated market**

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in Virginia have a combined market share of 61 percent.

### **Virginia Businesses Suffer**

#### **Fewer Virginians have health coverage at work**

- ✓ In 2002, 73 percent of Virginians under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 66.2 percent of Virginians had coverage through their employer.

### **Virginia Economy Suffers**

#### **Health care spending climbs**

- ✓ In 2004, Virginia spent \$36 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$4,822 per capita, and is 10.9 percent of the Gross State Product.

#### **Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health**

- ✓ This year, the Virginia economy will lose \$2.7 billion - \$5.5 billion due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.